

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

Application Number	10/015,274
Filing Date	December 11, 2001
First Named Inventor	Randolf Von Oepen
Art Unit	1614
Examiner Name	Alicia R. Hughes
Attorney Docket Number	17601.32a.1.1

U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number	Filing Date	Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1				

U.S. PATENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Patent Number	Issue Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	5,176,617	1/5/1993	Fischell et al.	
	2	5,728,150	3/17/1998	McDonald et al.	
	3	5,840,009	11/24/1998	Fischell et al.	
	4	5,843,163	12/1/1998	Wall	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Publication Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Country Code	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ¹
	1	WO 97/38730	WO	10/23/1997			<input type="checkbox"/>
	2	DE19724230	DE	11/26/1998			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	3	EP0819446	EP	1/21/1998			<input type="checkbox"/>

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ¹
	1		<input type="checkbox"/>

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OFFICE ACTION / NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Application Number	Mail Date	Document
	1			

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.